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# MINUTES

## *Governmental Relations Committee*

Meeting of June 12, 2000

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<b>Committee members present</b>	Melinda Wilson, <i>Chair</i> Lance Izumi, <i>Vice Chair</i> Carol Chandler Jeff Marston Kyhl Smeby Howard Welinsky Guillermo Rodriguez, Jr., <i>ex officio</i> Alan S. Arkatov, <i>ex officio</i>	<b>Other Commissioners present</b> Kyo "Paul" Jhin Ralph Pesqueira Roger Schrimp
<b>Committee member absent</b>	Monica Lozano	

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<b>Call to order</b>	Committee chair Wilson the meeting of June 12, 2000 Governmental Relations Committee meeting to order at 1:23 p.m. in California Chamber of Commerce, California Room, Esquire Plaza, 1215 K Street, 14 <sup>th</sup> Floor, Sacramento, California.
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<b>Approval of the minutes</b>	Chair Wilson asked for motions to approve the minutes for the committee meetings on April 3, 2000. A motion was so made and the committee voted without dissent to approve the minutes as submitted.
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<b>Legislative Update, June 2000</b>	Commissioner Wilson called upon staff member Marge Chisholm to present the legislative and budget update for June 2000.
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<b>Governor's education initiatives</b>	<p>Ms. Chisholm reviewed the various Legislative deadlines and the general calendar. She outlined three education initiatives put forward by the Governor Gray Davis Administration. Included are SB 1503 (Polanco), Algebra Instruction and Training/Merit Scholarships; SB 1504 (Escutia), The Advanced Placement Challenge Grant Program; and SB 1505 (Alarcon), Teacher Recruitment and Retention. She said these bills, if passed, would significantly improve learning and teaching in California and they will require dedication of extensive resources. The bills are moving at good pace through the legislative process.</p>
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Commissioner Izumi remarked that the Legislative Analyst had raised concerns over the correlation of teacher performance and National Certification provisions of SB 1505.

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**Senate Budget  
2000-01**

Staff member Kevin Woolfork reviewed some of the provisions of the 2000-01 State Budget, which had been adopted the night before, and which reflected information from the May Revise of the Governor's budget. He said revenue collection is up significantly and that this factor is reflected in the new budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

In response to a question from Commissioner Marston, Mr. Woolfork said there was no change in the budget, as proposed by the Administration, as concerns higher education student fees.

Director Fox asked about the funding proposed for student transfer centers. Mr. Woolfork said it was not included in the bill passed by the Legislature, but that the Governor felt very strongly about this proposal and it may be reinstated during the negotiation process that occurs before the Governor signs the budget bill.

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**Legislative bill  
matrix**

Staff member Mary Saenz reported that a Website version of the Commission bill matrix is being developed to help respond to inquiries about the Commission's position on various legislation.

Commissioner Chandler asked that the online version of the matrix reflect the Commission's adopted priorities.

Ms. Saenz confirmed the Commission's Legislative and Budget Priorities will be posted in this section of the Website.

Ms. Chisholm said staff was recommending, based on changes made to individual bills, changes in the Commission's position on several pieces of pending legislation. These were, as listed on the matrix, items 11, 12, 17, 19, 21, 22, 24, 25, 27, 31, 32, and 34. She explained the changes in the bills and the staff rationale for a proposed change in the Commission's position.

There was a general discussion about the provisions of item 32, SB 1737 (Hayden) on service learning, during which Ms. Chisholm explained the service learning would be incorporated in course curricula (as compared with other non-course related community service projects students might be involved in), and that the bill focuses on the CSU system.

Ms. Chisholm stated that staff was now recommending a Commission position of "support" for SB 1788 (Burton) on student financial aid and the Cal Grant program. She said recent changes in the bill were responsive to previously voiced Commission concerns. She said the bill would first assure that the State goal of providing grants to 25 percent of current high school graduating class would be met. In out years, she said the bill would provide grants for all students who met the award criteria. Currently, not all students who qualify receive a grant.

Executive Director Fox explained the history of grant award levels and that this bill would significantly change California's student aid programs.

Ms. Chisholm said the bill also requires a 3.0 GPA for awardees in the Cal Grant A program and a 2.0 GPA in the Cal Grant B program.

There was a general discussion and information briefing on current Cal Grant program award levels, application process and deadlines and other program requirements. Commission staff member Karl Engelbach provided much of the information about the programs.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the changes in Commission's position on the items set forth in the matrix and presented by staff. During the discussion, Commissioner Marston said he did not favor changing the Commission's position from "watch" to "support" on item 12, AB 2266 (Firebaugh) on public school funding, inasmuch as there are no provisions for funding the measure. He favored maintaining a "watch" position.

The motion was amended to exclude item 12, AB 2266, and it passed without dissent.

An additional motion was made and seconded to change the Commission position from "watch" to "support" on item 12, AB 2266 (Firebaugh). The motion passed on vote of four to three.

Director Fox said staff would keep the Commission updated about any further changes to AB 2266.

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<b>Adjournment</b>	Having no further business, Committee Chair Chandler adjourned the meeting at 2:10 p.m.
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